

Most Important Goals and Results



DISASTER ASSISTANCE GOAL

FEMA's Disaster Assistance Goal is to: (1) help local governments continue to provide services following disasters by reconstructing public facilities and removing debris; and (2) help individuals by providing minimal repair for homes that can be quickly restored to a habitable condition, rental assistance for those whose residences are uninhabitable, and mortgage assistance to those suffering disaster related financial hardship.

Approximately \$3.9 billion in disaster funds were expended in FY 2002 to aid people and communities overwhelmed by disasters which included earthquakes, floods, ice and winter storms, fires, tornadoes, hurricanes and tropical storms. The expenditures were in response to 42 major disasters declared by President Bush involving 28 states and four U.S. territories in the Western Pacific. In addition, the Agency authorized a near-record 83 fire management grants to help fight wildfires in 18 states, with the western part of the nation experiencing one of the worst fire seasons in U.S. history.

FEMA funding as obligated at year-end and immediately thereafter showed that the costliest disaster recoveries in 2002 included the February ice storms that crippled Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma (\$241.5 million); Hurricane Lili, which struck Louisiana in early October (\$158.8 million); and Typhoons Chata'an and Pongsona, which devastated Guam in July and December, respectively (\$119.6 million).



New York City, NY, September 11, 2002

People from all over the world come to New York for an observance ceremony for the one year anniversary of 9/11.

PHOTO BY ANDREA BOOHER/FEMA NEWS PHOTO



New York City, NY, September 11, 2002

People from all over the world have come to Ground Zero to honor the victims lost a year ago at the World Trade Center site.

PHOTO BY LAUREN HOBART/FEMA NEWS PHOTO

Among other major events that FEMA responded to in 2002 were:

- *Floods*—Spring and summer floods struck Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia in April; West Virginia in May; Indiana, Iowa and Minnesota in June; and Texas in July;

- *Wildfires*—The massive Hayman fire in Colorado and the Rodeo-Chediski fire in Arizona resulted in major disasters being declared in June for wildfires in those two states;

- *Tropical Weather*—The U.S. Gulf Coast was lashed with Tropical Storm Isidore in September and Hurricane Lili in October, which led to major disaster declarations for Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi;

- *Tornadoes*—A swarm of Veterans Day tornadoes ravaged parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee; and,

- *Winter Weather*—An early December ice storm paralyzed North Carolina, causing extensive public property damage and prolonged power outages.

Statistically, Alaska and Texas led the nation in the need for federal aid, with each state requiring three major disaster declarations. Alabama, Guam, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Micronesia, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, the Northern Mariana Islands, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin each required two.

In addition to the numerous disasters that struck in FY 2002, FEMA continued its full support to the City and State of New York in their

recovery efforts from the World Trade Center attacks, including the release of funding projections for how FEMA will distribute the \$9.0 billion allotted by President Bush and Congress in the days after September 11, 2001. Specifically, based on the projected commitments in New York, FEMA estimates that over \$4.2 billion will go towards public assistance projects that include debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair or restoration of damaged public facilities. An additional \$2.75 billion has been approved to revamp Lower Manhattan's transportation infrastructure damaged during the attack. FEMA also estimates that approximately \$500 million is being spent to provide assistance to individuals and families affected by the attack through such programs as FEMA's Mortgage and Rental Assistance, Individual and Family Grants, and Crisis Counseling.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)

Flood-loss reduction, a most important performance goal, is aimed at reducing estimated losses from NFIP activities by an estimated \$1 billion. Flooding is one of the most common forms of disaster in the U.S. The NFIP was created to address this problem, and to provide the alternative to direct federal disaster assistance. The NFIP has three purposes: (1) to reduce federal expenditures for disaster assistance and flood control; (2) to reduce future flood damages through state and community floodplain management regulations; and (3) to better indemnify individuals for flood losses through insurance.

The NFIP has had a significant impact on reducing this nation's flood losses. More than 19,700 communities in all 50 states participate in the NFIP. Structures



New York City, NY, March 15, 2002

FEMA debris specialist Jim Leach looks down into the pit of the World Trade Center site from the ARCO bridge, which is used to allow heavy machinery to access the pit.

PHOTO BY LARRY LERNER/FEMA NEWS PHOTO

built to NFIP criteria experience 80% less damage through reduced frequency and severity of losses. The NFIP floodplain management requirements are estimated to save in excess of \$1 billion per year. Detailed data depicting the results of the program are included in the Annual Performance part of this report on page 36 under Goal M.3.1.

In FY 2002, FEMA re-calculated and re-projected loss avoidance achieved through its flood mitigation and insurance efforts. The results indicate that the growth in savings is continuing. An additional \$62 million in cost avoidance was projected for FY 2002.

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

Another important FEMA performance goal is to increase community resistance to natural hazards and prevent future losses from hazards. Hazard mitigation involves changing conditions and behavior to protect lives and prevent the loss of property. Reducing the risk of disaster damage through mitigation controls

escalating disaster costs, including not only costs to the federal government, but also those to state and local governments, the private sector, and the public. Disaster resistance thus leads to a more stable economic environment for communities and the nation. FEMA's role is to acquire and share risk management information, and to coordinate and support community efforts to identify and assess potential risk, to develop plans to address the risks, to effectively communicate the risks, and to take action to reduce or eliminate the risks. Mitigation is an ongoing, multi-hazard effort to lessen the impact disasters have on people and property, with a number of mitigation programs directly aimed at taking people and property out of harm's way.



Guerneville, CA

Successfully having raised their home after they lost nearly everything in the January 1997 floods, Robert and Karen Feldt now also carry NFIP insurance.

PHOTO BY DAVE GATLEY/FEMA NEWS PHOTO

FEMA's hazard mitigation efforts exceed its FY 2002 goals in three areas: (1) lives at less risk; (2) structures at less risk; and (3) the number of communities taking disaster resistance actions. Decreased risk lessens the potential payout of disaster assistance costs and contributes to the long term \$2.45 billion in projected cost avoidance stemming from the FEMA's mitigation grant program by FY 2008. Detailed data depicting the results of the program are included in the Annual Performance part of this report on page 35 under Goal M.1.1.

UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION (USFA)

The USFA goal is to support the reduction of loss of life from fire related incidents. This goal is achieved through public education and awareness, training of fire service personnel, supporting the use of new technology, and through public/ private partnerships. Data accumulated on the impact of fires during the last decade indicates significant progress in realizing the USFA overall goal. Detailed data depicting the results of the program are included in the Annual Performance part of this report on page 45 under Goal P.3.

That data shows that in FY 2001, the last year for which data is available, 3,745 deaths from fires, omitting the WTC data, declined to the next to lowest figure in the last decade. Injuries caused by fire were the lowest in the last decade, while direct dollar losses, (unadjusted for inflation) again omitting WTC, were consistent with the recent past despite the growth in population.

FEMA successfully delivered hundreds of millions of dollars in firefighter grants. The funds will be used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations,



Point of Rocks, MD

Home scheduled to receive HMGP funds from FEMA for elevation or demolition.

PHOTO BY LIZ ROLL/FEMA NEWS PHOTO

improve firefighter health and safety programs, purchase new fire apparatus, enhance Emergency Medical Service (EMS) programs, and support Fire Prevention and Safety Programs. In all, in FY 2002, FEMA and the USFA distributed fire grants totaling more than \$175 million, and an additional \$185 million, by the end of the calendar year, in an investment to enhance fire service and EMS delivery nationwide.

FEMA's major program goals have been and continue to be accomplished. Despite the level of goal achievement, we recognize that much can be gained from reengineering and restructuring elements of program design and by reinforcing management practices.



College Park, MD, January 25, 2002

FEMA Director Allbaugh talks about his visit to the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL CONNOLLY/FEMA NEWS PHOTO